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(71) Applicant: **NORTEL NETWORKS CORPORATION**
Montreal, Quebec H2Y 3Y4 (CA)

(72) Inventors:

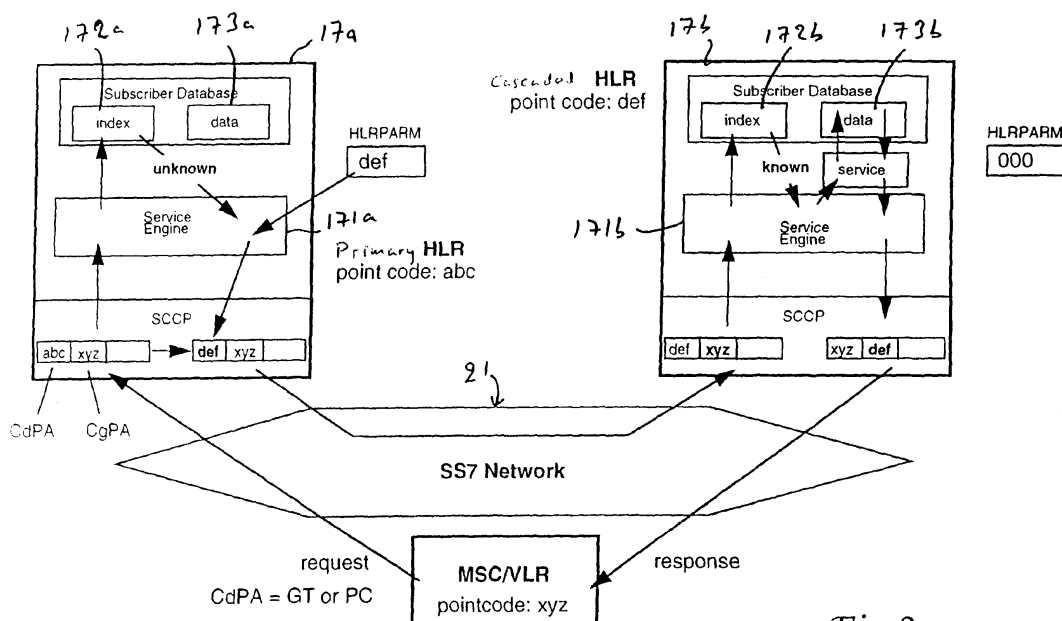
- **Price, David**
Erley, Reading RG6 5XT (GB)
- **Maginley, Ronald James**
Bray, Maidenhead SL6 2BG (GB)

(74) Representative: **Ryan, John Peter William et al**
Nortel Networks
Intellectual Property Law Group
London Road
Harlow, Essex CM17 9NA (GB)

(54) Cellular communications system

(57) In a mobile telephone network, a home location register (HLR) is provided with one or more cascaded home location registers to which some of the subscribers are allocated so as to share the workload in processing the subscriber information requests that are involved in the setting up of calls. Routing of requests to the cor-

rect HLR is simplified by routing all such requests to the original or master HLR and forwarding only those requests for which data is stored on one of the back-up or cascaded HLRs. This avoids the need for changes in the existing system routing plan. In a further embodiment two HLRs may form a mutually boosting pair.

*Fig.2*

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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A	* column 3, line 28 - column 4, line 27 * * column 6, line 15 - column 7, line 21 * * column 9, line 4 - column 10, line 51; figures 5,6 *	1	
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			H04Q G06F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 31 May 1999	Examiner Tsapelis, A
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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